

Appl. No. 10/043,733
Proposed Amended Claims

Remarks:

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for discussing the previous rejections in this case. As discussed with the Examiner on November 24, 2003, the above claims are believed to be allowable. Claims 1-28 are in this case. Claims 1, 13, 27, and 28 have been amended to emphasize that the inventive structure is an electronic attenuator circuit comprising two or more ports, including input, output, and common terminals connected to the groups of thermistors.

The applicant discloses and claims an at least two port attenuator comprising a plurality of columnar thermistors embedded within the substrate, and the attenuator having at least three terminals including an input, output, and a common terminal. The terminals are connected to groups of thermistors that form the components of the attenuator. Prior art of record fails to teach or suggest such an attenuator having a plurality of columnar thermistors embedded within the substrate where groups of thermistors that form the components of the attenuator, and the attenuator having at least three terminals including an input, output, and a common terminal as recited in independent claims 1, 13, 27, and 28. Thus, the two port attenuator comprising a plurality of columnar thermistors is neither anticipated by or obvious in view of the prior art of record.

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It is believed that the application now complies with all aspects of 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103 and is in a condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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